magnitude as on the same day Colaba observatory in South Mumbai recorded only about 7.3 cm of rainfall at 0830 hrs. on 27.7.2005.

(b) The India Meteorological department is in the process of establishing a denser network of observatories and Doppler Radars with capability of capturing the small scale details of rain bearing weather systems. These observational facilities in conjunction with the advanced regional predictions systems that are being developed will help in understanding and forecasting localized rainfall events.

Institúte of Seismological Research in Gujarat

2620. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have taken any measure to establish an Institute for Seismological Research in Gujarat/all over the country to give precautions to the public of devastating earthquake/Tsunami waves near the coastal areas which would in future be a R&D Institution of international repute;

(b) if so, the decision on the proposal by the Central Government; and

(c) the provisions of funds for the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Gujarat State Government has informed that the State has established an Institute of Seismological Research (ISR) in Gujarat. The Institute is mandated for R&D in the field of earthquakes. However, at present there is no scientific technique available anywhere in the world to forecast the occurrence of earthquake in terms of space, time and magnitude. For Tsunami, a separate proposal has been prepared to set up a Tsunami Warning System in Indian Ocean. The Department of Science & Technology and Department of Ocean Development are the lead agencies in this endeavour.

(c) Out of the World Bank loan received by the State Government under Gujarat Emergency Earthquake Reconstruction Project, an amount of Rs. 30.00 crores has been allocated for the Institute. The Department of Science & Technology (DST) is providing technical and project based financial support to ISR. Recently an amount of Rs. 259.69 lakhs has been sanctioned to ISR for the project entitled "Seismological Research

and Applications in Gujarat" to facilitate procurement of a set of geophysical survey instruments and creating necessary infrastructure.

Road accidents in Delhi

2621. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 1800 people, majority of them pedestrians, were killed in road accidents in Delhi alone during 2004;

(b) if so, with the spread of urbanization and vehicle revolution whether this spiraling death count needs urgent attention; and

(c) what effective comprehensive steps Government are proposing to adopt so that road accidents could be reduced to the minimum, not only in the urban regions, but on the Highways also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) As per information obtained from Delhi Police, 1851 persons were killed in road accidents during the year 2004, out of which 915 persons were pedestrians.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Problems associated with urbanization and public transport are primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. As far as Delhi is concerned, enforcement of road safety measures comes under the purview of Govt. of NCT of Delhi and Delhi Police. Some of the steps taken by them are:—

(i) Comprehensive Programme for mass education of the public particularly of school children. For this purpose, 200 Road Safety Clubs have been established in schools and 101 NGOs have been associated;

(ii) Distribution of Road Safety Literature among various categories of road users;

(iii) Training of professional drivers of buses and commercial vehicles;

(iv) Rigid enforcement of traffic rules in Delhi;

(v) Concerted action against drunken driving, reckless driving, minor's driving, red light jumping, over speeding etc.;

(vi) Segregation of fast moving traffic from slow moving traffic;

(vii) Closure of gaps in the central verges on accident' prone roads;